

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: THEATRE FESTIVAL

REF: MOSCOW 0508-U

HAVE QUERIED VARIOUS AMERICAN THEATRE ORGANIZATIONS AND FIND THAT FESTIVAL MENTIONED REFTEL IS PROBABLY (1) FESTIVAL OF EXPERIMENTAL COLLEGIATE THEATRE HELD IN ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, ADMINISTERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WHICH INCLUDES MANY U.S. COLLEGIATE EXPERIMENTAL PERFORMANCES OR (2) EXPERIMENTAL FESTIVAL IN LOS ANGELES, PRODUCED BY LAWRENCE PARKE UNDER UNESCO AUSPICES. MICHIGAN FESTIVAL NOT SUGGESTED FOR INCLUSION IN TOUR AS IT IS YOUTHFUL BUT NOT VERY EXPERIMENTAL, AND VERY COLLEGIATE. LOS ANGELES FESTIVAL GOT UNESCO SPONSORSHIP, BUT NO MONEY. FESTIVAL HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

U.S. BRANCH OF INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE WILLING TO PROVIDE ADVICE ON CURRENT AMERICAN EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE WHEN GROUP ARRIVES U.S. SUGGEST CONTACT MOSCOW REPRESENTATIVE OF ITI TO COORDINATE. HOWARD STEIN, YALE DRAMA SCHOOL HAS OFFERED TO BRIEF GROUP ON CURRENT AMERICAN SCENE SHOULD HE ARRIVE MOSCOW BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE. MOST THEATRE EXPERTS HERE RECOMMEND MARCH/APRIL AND NOVEMBER/DECEMBER AS BEST MONTHS FOR EXPERI-

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MENTAL THEATRE. IF ONLY ONE STOP POSSIBLE, NEW YORK BEST CITY

TO EXPLORE EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE. HOWEVER, IF OTHER STOPS
POSSIBLE SUGGEST NEW YORK FOLLOWED BY SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES,
MINNEAPOLIS OR WASHINGTON.

ALSO IT CAN BE VERY HELPFUL TOWARD ESTABLISHING OF ITINERARY FOR
GROUP WHEN THEY ARE READY. KISSINGER

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